

CLAIMS:

1. A drive system for driving a driven member comprising:
a motor; and
a pivotable linkage which allows relative pivoting between the driven member and the drive system, the pivotable linkage being operatively connected with the motor for advancing the driven member.
2. The drive system of claim 1, wherein the pivotable linkage includes a drive member, the drive system further including a lead screw, a lead screw operatively connected with the motor, the motor imparting a rotational movement to a lead screw; the drive member being operatively connected with the lead screw such that the drive member advances in response to rotational movement of the lead screw in a first rotational direction.
3. The drive system of claim 2, wherein at least one of the drive member and the driven member defines a socket which receives a tip of the other of the drive member and driven member, allowing pivoting of the drive member relative to the driven member.
4. The drive system of claim 3, wherein the drive member defines the tip.
5. The drive system of claim 2, wherein the drive system is configured for advancing the driven member only in a first axial direction, advancement in a direction opposite to the first axial direction being provided by a biasing assembly.
6. The drive system of claim 2, wherein the drive member includes internal threads which engage external threads on the lead screw.
7. The drive system of claim 6, wherein the internal threads of the drive member are configured to allow pivoting of the drive member relative to the lead screw.

8. The drive system of claim 1, wherein the motor comprises a stepper motor.

9. The drive system of claim 1, wherein the motor is directly connected with the lead screw.

10. A print engine comprising the drive system of claim 1.

11. The print engine of claim 10, wherein the driven member comprises a print head.

12. The print engine of claim 11, wherein the drive system is configured for advancing the print head only in a first axial direction, the system further including:

a biasing assembly for biasing the print head in a direction opposite to the first axial direction.

13. The print engine of claim 12, wherein the biasing assembly includes a spring which is generally coaxially aligned with the first axial direction.

14. The print engine of claim 11, wherein the pivotable linkage includes a drive member and wherein at least one of the drive member and the print head defines a socket which receives a tip of the other of the drive member and print head, allowing pivoting of the drive member relative to the print head.

15. The print engine of claim 14, wherein the print head includes a shaft which defines the socket and wherein the drive member defines the tip which is shaped to be received by the socket, the drive member being pivotable, about the tip, relative to the print head.

16. The print engine of claim 11, wherein the print head includes first and second shafts at first and second ends thereof which define the axis of translation, the drive system being operatively connected with the first shaft.

17. The print engine of claim 16, further including:
a first X-axis bearing member which receives the first shaft; and
a second X-axis bearing member which supports the second shaft for sliding movement relative thereto as the print head is translated in the first axial direction direction.

18. The print engine of claim 16, further including a roll block, mounted on the first shaft, which allows a distance of the first shaft from the second X-axis bearing to be adjusted.

19. An imaging system comprising the drive system of claim 1, wherein the driven member comprises a print head.

20. The imaging system of claim 19, further including a drum assembly, the print head translating relative to the drum assembly during an imaging process, the system further including a biasing member which biases the print head toward the drum assembly, such that, during translation of the print head relative to the drum assembly, a first contacting member on the print head maintains a sliding contact with a first receiving member associated with the drum assembly.

21. A print engine comprising:
a print head;
a drive system for translating the print head in a first axial direction, the drive system being coupled to the print head by a pivotable linkage which allows pivoting between the print head and the drive system.

22. The print engine of claim 21, wherein the pivotable linkage includes:
a drive member and wherein the drive system further includes:
a lead screw, the drive member converting rotational movement of the lead screw into axial movement.

23. A method of driving a print head during an imaging process comprising:

translating the print head in a first axial direction with a drive system the drive system including a flexible coupling which allows relative pivoting between the print head and the drive system.

24. The method of claim 23, wherein the step of translating includes translating the print head with a drive mechanism which is configured for translating the print head only in a first direction; and

biasing the print head in a direction opposite to the first direction.